

## **Activity 10: Detecting Indoor Air Pollutants in the Classroom**

**Objective:** To help students think of pro-active ways to improve indoor air quality in their schools

**Duration:** 1 Class Period

### **Materials:**

- ☐ List of duties which will keep indoor air clean

### **Vocabulary:**

- ☐ Indoor Air Quality
- ☐ Air Pollution

### **Focus Questions:**

- ☐ What are some things we can do to get rid of air pollution in schools?
- ☐ What are some activities that can help keep our classrooms free of air pollutants?
- ☐ Who should you tell if you notice a pollutant source?

### **Activity Procedure:**

This activity is geared toward making students think of ways to help improve indoor air quality in their classrooms and throughout their school.

1. Discuss the potential pollutants found in the classroom and ask them to think of ways they can become involved in keeping a healthy indoor environment. Make a list on the board
2. Make a list of ideas from the students on how they can help you keep IAQ clean. If they have trouble answering this question, explain how they can help by putting lids back on paints, wiping their shoes so cleaning products do not need to be used on floors and by reporting spills. Talk about action processes students can take if they see a potential source.
3. Type a list of activities to help keep the room healthy and give it to the students

as a reference. Assign two students as indoor air detectives for the day. Explain that their duties are to monitor the room to help prevent potential indoor air pollutants from occurring.

4. Selected students are in charge of keeping the room clean. Ask them to tell their classmates to clean their shoes on mats and pick up crumbs so pesticides do not have to be used by the janitors. Ask Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) detectives to make sure lids are on paint supplies, and air vents located in the classrooms are not blocked. IAQ detectives should assist with leaks by telling the teacher when they notice potential pollutant sources.

5. Select two different students each day to be classroom IAQ detectives. Have the students make a list of any potential IAQ pollutants or pollutant sources they helped discourage.